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May 13, 2004

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Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

MAY 25 2004
Michelle Carey
COMPETITION POLICY DIVISION
WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority to Transfer Control of Granby Telephone and Telegraph Company, *Nunc Pro Tunc*, Pending Grant of Permanent Authority

WCB Docket No. 04-165

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Sections 63.01 and 63.03 of the FCC's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 63.01, 63.03, Granby Holdings, Inc. ("Granby Holdings"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Country Road Communications, LLC ("Country Road"), hereby requests special temporary authority ("STA") to acquire control of The Granby Telephone & Telegraph Company of Massachusetts ("Granby") pending grant of permanent authority for such transfer of control pursuant to the above-referenced docket. Granby Holdings requests that this STA provide authority for the transfer on a *nunc pro tunc* basis relating back to April 16, 2004. On that date, Granby Holdings, Granby, and the shareholders of Granby closed on a transaction whereby Granby Holdings acquired all of the issued and outstanding shares of Granby.

The parties to the transaction inadvertently did not file an application to transfer control of Granby and receive the FCC's approval prior to closing on the transaction. This was the result of an oversight. We at Country Road and Granby Holdings take our responsibilities under the Communications Act very seriously. As soon as this oversight came to our attention, we moved quickly to file an application with the FCC for authority to transfer control of Granby, which included a notification of the inadvertent unauthorized transfer. We deeply regret any confusion caused by these unfortunate circumstances and are taking steps to ensure such events will not recur.

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The public interest would be served by grant of this STA request. As noted in the above-referenced application, Country Road seeks to become a leading telecommunications provider in communities that lie outside of major metropolitan areas. To meet its objectives, it seeks to acquire rural telephone companies or their assets, where it provides new, enhanced communications services, including broadband services, to its customers. Through the efficiency and proximity of its facilities in rural areas, Country Road also is implementing a competitive local exchange carrier build-out in certain adjacent urban areas, and Granby is an integral part of Country Road's investment and build-out plans. Country Road will strengthen the position of Granby to offer new, enhanced services to its customers. Grant of this STA request would serve the public interest by allowing Country Road to continue such efforts under the authority of the FCC while the above-referenced application for permanent authority remains pending.

The foregoing premises considered, Granby Holdings and Country Road respectfully request an STA be granted as soon as possible to provide authority to continue providing service as described above. This STA is requested to extend until such time as the above-referenced application is granted.

Sincerely,



Thomas Mendenhall
Vice-President - Finance, Secretary &
Treasurer
Country Road Communications, LLC

cc: Dennis Johnson
Cara Grayer
Susan O'Connell